UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
CHOU, ALAN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _04 September 2003_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-23_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _7/1/2005_.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-23 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   Claims 1-5, 8-11, 12, 15, 16, 17-18, 21, 22, 23 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ng U.S. Patent Number 6,411,956 B1

(hereinafter Ng).

3.   As per claims 1, 12, 17, 18, 23, Ng discloses a system, comprising: an

application server (see Enterprise Java Bean 141 and 142 components on column 3

line 1-10); and one or more of backend systems coupled to the application server (see

external database 18 on column 1 line 11-18); wherein the one or more backend

systems comprises a plurality data resources; wherein the application server comprises:

an application configured to initiate requests for connections with the plurality of data

resources (see requests a database connection on column 4 line 10-17); a plurality of

data sources configured to provide connections with the plurality of data resources (see

table 60 associated a global transaction identifier with a physical connection on column

4 line 1-10); and wherein the application server is configured to associate an identity

with each of the plurality of data sources and to use the identity to determine whether

one of the plurality of data sources provides connections to the same data resource as

another of the plurality of data sources (see determine connection association on

column 4 line 15-27).

4.   As per claim 2, <u>Ng</u> discloses the system as recited in claim 1, wherein in

response to the application requesting a connection from one of the plurality of data

sources, a data source ID manager is configured to ascertain the identity of the data

source from which the connection was requested and determine whether the identity

matches the identity of any other of the plurality of data sources (see adapter 523

determine connection association on column 4 line 15-27).

5.   As per claim 3, <u>Ng</u> discloses the system as recited in claim 2, wherein the data

source ID manager is further configured to determine whether any of the data sources

with matching identities previously supplied a connection to the application and, if a

connection was previously supplied, to return the previously supplied connection to the

application (see connecting with physical connection associated with the transaction

step 76 on column 4 line 20-23).

6.   As per claim 4, <u>Ng</u> discloses the system as recited in claim 3, wherein if no

connection from a data source with a matching identity exists, the data source is

configured to forward the request to a corresponding data source to obtain a new connection (see create new physical connection step 80 on column 4 line 15-20).

7.   As per claim 5, Ng discloses the system as recited in claim 4, wherein the connection is a local connection (see physical connection on column 4 line 15-27).

8.   As per claim 8, Ng discloses the system as recited in claim 1, wherein the application server is configured to instantiate a data source proxy for an abstract name of a data resource used by an application; ascertain an identity for the data source; and use the identity to link the proxy to the data source (see global transaction identifier on column 4 line 1-10).

9.   As per claims 9, 15, 21, Ng discloses the system as recited in claim 8, wherein multiple data source proxies correspond to the same data source identity, wherein in response to the application requesting connections with a same data resource from multiple data source proxies, the data source proxies from which the connections were requested are configured to forward the connection requests to the data source whose identity corresponds to said proxies (see determine association on column 4 line 15-22).

10.   As per claim 10, Ng discloses the system as recited in claim 1, wherein in response to a request to instantiate a data source corresponding to an abstract name, the application server is configured to determine an identity for the proposed data

source, determine whether any existing data source has a matching identity, instantiate the proposed data source only if no existing data source with matching identity is found (see create new physical connection step 80 on column 4 line 17-22).

11.   As per claims 11, 16, 22, <u>Ng</u> discloses the system as recited in claim 1, wherein the application server further comprises a transaction manager (see transaction manager 124, 144, 164 on column 3 line 10-19); wherein in response to a request to commit a transaction the transaction manager is configured to identify a number of data resources participating in the transaction according to connections supplied for unique data source identities; wherein if the number of data resources participating in the transaction is two or more the transaction manager is configured to commit the transaction utilizing a two-phase commit protocol (see two-phase commit protocol on column 1 line 31-43); and wherein if only one data resource participating in the transaction the transaction manager is configured to commit the transaction utilizing a one-phase commit optimization (see column 1 line 25-30).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

13.   Claims 6-7, 13-14, 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Ng as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Yousefi'zadeh

U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0030739 A1 (hereinafter

Yousefi'zadeh).

14.   As per claims 6-7, 13-14, 19-20, Ng discloses checking of a requested

connection is associated with a pre-existing virtual connection. Ng does not disclose

expressly the identity comprise values for data source properties. Yousefi'zadeh

teaches the use of data source properties such as URL, name of database, and user

name to identify connection as they are created (see page 8 section [0078]). Ng and

Yousefi'zadeh are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor,

JDBC database connection management systems. At the time of the invention it would

have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use data source properties

to identity connections. The motivation for doing so would have been to use pertinent

and readily available values to identify data source. Therefore, it would have been

obvious to combine Ng with Yousefi'zadeh to obtain the identity for the data source to

obtain the invention as specified in claims 6-7, 13-14, 19-20.

15.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

        a) System and Method for Transaction Processing with Delegated Commite

Feature by Felt et al., U.S. Patent Number 7,080,119 B2.

b) Method and Apparatus for Multiple Security Service Enablement in a Data

Processing System by Albaugh et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,687,831 B1.

c) Method for Accessing Object Linking-embedding Database Data via Java

Database Connectivity by Johnson, U.S. Patent Number 7,089,566 B1.

d) Database Load Balancing for Multi-tier Computer Systems by Yousefi'zadeh,

U.S. Patent Number 6,950,848 B1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Alan S. Chou whose telephone number is (571) 272-

5779. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am-3pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Valencia Martin-Wallace can be reached on (571)272-3440. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-

273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AC

JEFFREY PWU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER